PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416									
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2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.										
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No. PCT/US2005/010125

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2.	· nu	With regard to the elements * of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):										
	Des	scription, l	oages									
	1-1:	5		as originally file	ed							
Claims, Numbers												
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	5			filed with telefax	on 12.10.2005							
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No. PCT/US2005/010125

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2.	Citati	ons and	d ex	cplanatic	ons (Rul	e 70.7):											

see separate sheet

Re Item II Priority

The priority $n^{\circ}60/553,391$ is not considered to be rightfully claimed for the following reasons:

The priority document discloses the use of <u>talnetant</u> for the treatment of bipolar disorders. Present independent claims 1 and 5 refer to the use of <u>an NK3 antagonist</u> for the treatment of bipolar disorders.

Hence, at least part of the subject matter defined in the present claims is directed to a broader invention than that described in the cited priority document.

Document D6 (WO2005/014575) published after the claimed priority date but prior to the date of filing of the present application is therefore considered as part of the state of the art.

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

- The documents cited in the International Search Report are consecutively numbered D1-D6 in the order of their listing. If not indicated otherwise, reference is made to the passages cited in said ISR.
- 2. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document D1 discloses the use of the NK3 antagonist osanetant for the treatment of depressive disdorders associated with bipolar disorders. According to document D6 (p.51, right-hand column), manic-depression was the former term used for bipolar disorders, and both bipolar I and II patients have a history of depression. Thus, its is more than doubtful that at least claim 1 is novel over D1.

Document D6 discloses the use of compounds structurally close to talnetant as NK3 antagonists. Some of the diseases mentioned to be treated by the compounds

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (SEPARATE SHEET)

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includes bipolar manic depression, including type I and II, (p.10).

- 3. The subject-matter of claims 2 and 3 directed to the use of talnetant for the treatment of a bipolar disorder, as well as claims 4 and 5 directed to the treatment of specific manic episodes would appear to be novel, Art. 33(2) PCT.
- 4. In view of D1 and D6, it would be obvious for the skilled man willing to find alternative agents for the treatment of bipolar disorders to try to use other NK3 antagonsist, such as talnetant, with a reasonable expectation of success.

Furthermore, the application does not contain any experimental evidence showing that talnetant is effective in the treatment of any specific bipolar disorder.

Even if an inventive step would be acknowledged for the use of talnetant in the treatment of bipolar disorders, the effect could not be generalized to any NK3 antagonist since there is no evidence for a link between the functionally defined compounds and the condition to be treated.

Therefore, the subject-matter of claims 1-5 does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT.

- 5. The use of an NK3 antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a disorder selected from the list:
 - 296.00 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, Unspecified;
 - 296.01 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, Mild;
 - 296.02 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, Moderate;
 - 296.03 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, Severe without Psychotic Features;
 - 296.04 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, Severe with Psychotic Features;
 - 296.05 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, In Partial Remission;
 - 296.06 Bipolar I Disorder, Single Manic Episode, In Full Remission;
 - 296.40 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Hypomanic;
 - 296.40 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, Unspecified;
 - 296.41 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, Mild;
 - 296.42 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, Moderate;
 - 296.43 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, Severe without Psychotic Features;
 - 296.44 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, Severe with Psychotic Features;
 - 296.45 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, In Partial Remission;
 - 296.46 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Manic, In Full Remission;
 - 296.60 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, Unspecified;
 - 296.61 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, Mild;
 - 296.62 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, Moderate;
 - 296.63 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, Severe without Psychotic Features;
 - 296.64 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, Severe with Psychotic Features;
 - 296.65 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, In Partial Remission;
 - 296.66 Bipolar I Disorder, Most Recent Episode Mixed, In Full Remission;
 - 296.80 Bipolar Disorder NOS; and
 - 296.89 Bipolar II Disorder.